

CLAIMS

1. Conveyor, comprising a number of supporting bodies arranged successively in an array in order to form transporting positions for objects for transporting between two successive supporting bodies, wherein the form of the supporting bodies is suitable for urging the objects into a transverse position relative to the direction of movement.

2. Conveyor as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transporting positions are at least partly elongate in form.

3. Conveyor as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the supporting bodies comprise a narrowed portion asymmetrically as seen transversely of the transporting direction, wherein these bodies are arranged in alternating orientation in the conveyor.

4. Conveyor as claimed in one or more of the foregoing claims, wherein the supporting bodies are substantially diabolo-shaped, wherein the centre of the diabolos is positioned eccentrically.

5. Conveyor as claimed in one or more of the foregoing claims, wherein the centre of the diabolo is positioned eccentrically relative to the conveyor.

6. Conveyor as claimed in one or more of the claims 1-3, wherein the narrowed portion comprises a part of substantially constant thickness which is bounded on both sides by a tapering widened portion.

7. Conveyor as claimed in one or more of the foregoing claims, wherein the supporting bodies can be driven rotatably.

8. Conveyor as claimed in one or more of the foregoing claims, further comprising urging means for urging the objects in a longitudinal direction relative to the conveyor.

9. Conveyor as claimed in claim 8, wherein the urging means comprise at least one rotating element.

10. Conveyor as claimed in claim 8 or 9, wherein the rotating element comprises a brush.

5 11. Conveyor as claimed in one or more of the foregoing claims, further comprising a feed conveyor.

12. Conveyor as claimed in claim 11, wherein the feed conveyor comprises a flat belt, V-belt, troughed belt or roller track.

10 13. Conveyor as claimed in claim 11, wherein the feed conveyor comprises a water channel.

14. Supporting body, comprising:

- at least one side wall with a body extending therebetween, wherein said body comprises a narrowed portion asymmetrically,

- mounting means for mounting the supporting body.

15 15. Supporting body as claimed in claim 14, wherein the narrowed portion tapers to a waist as seen from both sides.

20 16. Supporting body as claimed in claim 14 or 15, wherein the waist extends over some distance.

17. Supporting body wherein the waist comprises an interruption.

25 18. Sorting device comprising a conveyor as claimed in one or more of the claims 1-13.

19. Sorting device as claimed in claim 18, comprising supporting bodies as claimed in one or more of the claims 14-17.

30 20. Method for orienting elongate products, comprising steps for:

- supplying elongate objects on a number of successively arranged supporting bodies as claimed in claims 14-17 or on a conveyor as claimed in claims 1-13,

- rotating the supporting bodies to set the objects into movement.

21. Method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising steps for stopping the rotation when the objects are positioned in the longitudinal direction of the supporting bodies.